

- (b) incubating an antibody or fragment thereof reactive with a streptococcal polypeptide of claim 17 with the biological sample to form a mixture; and
- (c) detecting specifically bound antibody or bound fragment in the mixture which indicates the presence of streptococcal.

27. A method for detection of antibody specific to streptococcus antigen in a biological sample comprising

- (a) obtaining a biological sample from a host;
- (b) incubating one or more streptococcal polypeptides of claim 17 or fragments thereof with the biological sample to form a mixture; and
- (c) detecting specifically bound antigen or bound fragment in the mixture which indicates the presence of antibody specific to streptococcus.

28. A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of streptococcal infection comprising combining a polypeptide according to claim 17 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or adjuvant.

29. A kit for detection or diagnosis of streptococcal infection comprising a polypeptide according to claim 17, and instructions for use of the polypeptide in the detection or diagnosis of streptococcal infection.

{ Please add the following new claims: }

--30. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide according to claim 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or adjuvant.

31. A method for diagnostic of streptococcal infection in a host susceptible to streptococcal infection comprising

- (d) obtaining a biological sample from a host;
- (e) incubating an antibody or fragment thereof reactive with a streptococcal polypeptide of claim 18 with the biological sample to form a mixture; and
- (f) detecting specifically bound antibody or bound fragment in the

mixture which indicates the presence of streptococcal.

32. A method for detection of antibody specific to streptococcus antigen in a biological sample comprising

- (a) obtaining a biological sample from a host;
- (b) incubating one or more streptococcal polypeptides of claim 18 or fragments thereof with the biological sample to form a mixture; and
- (c) detecting specifically bound antigen or bound fragment in the mixture which indicates the presence of antibody specific to streptococcus.

33. A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of streptococcal infection comprising combining a polypeptide according to claim 18 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or adjuvant .

34. A kit for detection or diagnosis of streptococcal infection comprising a polypeptide according to claim 18, and instructions for use of the polypeptide in the detection or diagnosis of streptococcal infection.--